

What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?:

Keep name confidential

If you want part of your response kept confidential, which parts?:

Ofcom may publish a response summary:

Yes

I confirm that I have read the declaration:

Yes

Ofcom should only publish this response after the consultation has ended:

You may publish my response on receipt

Additional comments:

1.13 In view of the fuller submission provided by the BBC, Ofcom is currently minded to approve its request for a multiplex licence amendment subject to consultation responses, on the basis that in principle, content management is a justified objective which ensures that the broadest range of HD content is made available to citizens and consumers.

This statement makes it sound like you have already made up your mind and that anything written by THE PUBLIC as part of the ongoing consultation is irrelevant.

Can we please stop saying Content Management and call it DRM as that is what it is, Content Management sounds like a VCR whereas DRM is clear to all as a draconian measure forced on people to prevent them accessing PAID FOR content as they see fit and as is within the law.

Question 1: Do you agree that copy management would broaden the range of HD content available on DTT and help secure its long term viability as a platform? :

No, where is the written/signed agreement available to read by everyone from the content providers that they will broaden the range of HD content available? Where is the written/signed agreement to say they will even maintain the status quo? Why are these content providers eager to place DRM technology on our TVs, DVRs, set-top boxes and computers when the US Courts rejected the same proposals? Why has the BBC, a PUBLICALLY FUNDED BODY, apparently caved in to the demands of the entertainment industry without first consulting the people that pay for it.

To even remotely think that locking up hardware through DRM will help secure DTT as a long term broadcast platform is bizarre.

You do not innovate by locking things up, the DTT should be as open as possible, to allow innovation from 3rd parties, not from creating monopolies.

Question 2: Do you agree that the BBC's proposed multiplex licence amendment represents the most appropriate means for securing an effective content management system on HD DTT? :

No, as no content management system should be allowed at all.

As already stated this was tried in the US and the Courts rejected it. If you move to any form of content management then every TV, set-top box, DVR etc would immediately be useless, this would mean the average person having to go out and purchase new equipment just to be able to view content that they have already paid for via their licence fee. In this house there are 3 FreeSat set-top boxes and one DVB-S pci card, I will not be forced to buy new hardware just because of a threat from content providers. I would rather have all ability to receive broadcasts disabled and stop paying my license fee.

Question 3: Do you agree with the proposed change to Condition 6 in the Multiplex B Licence? :

?

Question 4: Do you agree that Multiplexes C and D should be granted a similar amendment to their Licences as Multiplex B?. :

?

Question 5: Do you agree that the BBC's proposed approach for implementing content management would safeguard citizens and consumers legitimate use of HD content, and if not, what additional guarantees would be appropriate? :

The only guarantee to safeguard consumers legitimate use of HD content would be to DENY anyone the ability to DRM our systems.

By allowing DRM we would be handcuffing ourselves to content providers and would have to cave in to more and more draconian rules to be able to view their content. As stated before they tried this in the US and it was rejected, they haven't stopped making or selling content there, why should we be held to ransom here in the UK?

This would effectively cut us off from the rest of the world, manufacturing companies would have to produce a specific version of a product only for sale in the UK market, this would mean an increase in costs and mean that our products in the UK would become more expensive than anywhere else in the world... this in turn would kill off competition and seriously harm innovation.

Question 6: Do you agree that the BBC's proposed choice of content management technologies will have only a negligible impact on the cost of HD

DTT receivers and their interoperability with other HD consumer equipment?

. :

No, it will have a major impact on the cost of HD DTT receivers, the companies producing them would have to include the DRM systems dictated by the content providers and this would see 3rd party manufacturers drop out of the market. This would stifle competition and innovation, an individual TV / set-top box / DVR would have to be manufactured for the UK market alone, the costs of these would increase, great for a few manufacturers, very bad for the UK populace who have to upgrade their hardware to view content we have already paid for via our license fee.

Question 7: Do stakeholders agree that the BBC's proposed Huffman Code licensing arrangements would have a negligible effect on the market for HD DTT receivers? :

No it would have a serious effect, devices in peoples homes would become useless, requiring upgrades or having to be replaced. Stifling innovation and competition.

Question 8: Do the BBC's proposed content management states and their permitted use for different categories of HD content meet the requirements of other HD broadcasters on DTT? . :

?

Question 9: Are there any issues that you consider Ofcom should take into account in assessing the BBC's proposal, that have not been addressed by this consultation?:

Yes, the BBC's proposal doesn't seem to be taking anything into consideration, they appear to have caved in to a consortium who are simply threatening to stop supplying content. The UK is a lucrative market that NO ONE is going to stop selling to, that would be financial suicide. To force DRM on the UK will as mentioned so many times above stifle innovation and competition, the BBC is a publically funded organisation and should not bend to the whim of consortia just because of a few threats... Call their bluff and watch them cave in as they did in the US.

DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN OFCOM.